

# WRITING NET IONIC EQUATIONS

How to write a net ionic equation.

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# 1. START WITH A BALANCED CHEMICAL EQUATION



## **2. WRITE OUT THE COMPLETE IONIC EQUATION**

**A. ANY SUBSTANCE DESCRIBED AS AQUEOUS (AQ) CAN BE SEPARATED INTO ITS COMPONENT IONS.**

**B. ANY SUBSTANCE THAT IS NOT AQUEOUS (S) OR (L) CANNOT BE SEPARATED INTO IONS.**

**C. IF SUBSTANCES DO NOT HAVE THESE DESIGNATIONS, YOU MUST USE SOLUBILITY RULES TO DETERMINE WHAT IS AQUEOUS AND WHAT IS INSOLUBLE**

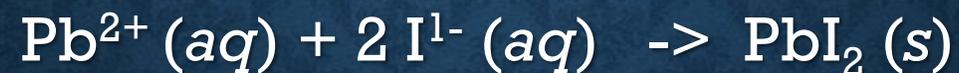
In the given example from the previous slide, the complete ionic equation would be:



**3. REMOVE THE IONS THAT ARE EXACTLY THE SAME ON BOTH SIDES OF THE EQUATION; THESE ARE *SPECTATOR IONS* AND DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE REACTION. THE RESULTING EQUATION IS THE NET IONIC EQUATION.**



#### 4. WRITE OUT THE NET IONIC EQUATION.



Be sure that the equation (and charges on both sides) remain balanced.